(b) whether any rehabilitation plan has been prepared for them; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Under the recently concluded agreement with the Government of Sri Lanka there is no commitment on the part of the Government of India to grant Indian citizenship to any more Tamils of Indian origin other than those who are covered by the Indo-Sri Lanka Agreements of 1964 and 1974. These repatriates will be settled under the existing rehabilitation schemes.

Eviction notices to displaced persons settled in Pandu and Maligaon in Gauhati

1852. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of displaced persons in Pandu and Maligaon in Gauhati were recently served with eviction notices from the land, on which they resettled themselves a decade before or so;

(b) whether Government propose to give them the rehabilitation benefits, as in the case of other displaced persons from Bangladesh;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Railways offered lands to Government of Assam for their rehabilitation, some years back; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken by the Central Government in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) Yes, Sir. Eviction notices were served by Railways, whose land is under encroachment by displaced persons as well as locals.

(b) Question of providing rehabilitation benefits to displaced persons, who have encroached the land in question, may not arise because the families who were in need of assistance went to relief camps and got necessary assistance. As intimated by the State Government all eligible families have already been given due rehabilitation benefits.

(c) and (d) The Railway had offered the land at Pandu at cost price and other alternative land at market value but the State Government is not ready to take over these lands.

State Rehabilitation Ministers' Conference

1853. SHRI RAMKRISHNA MAZUMDER: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference of the States Rehabilitation Ministers was recently held; and

(b) if so, the details of the discussions held and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Conference reviewed the progress of implementation of rehabilitation schemes in the various States and Union Territories. It was decided that the States should carefully examine and identify the residuary work to be done and also assign specific tasks to be completed within a definite time frame. It was also felt that such discussions should be held at more frequent intervals. The States representatives brought forth their problems in perspective and it was decided to have further discussions with State officers wherever necessary.